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Letter from Geo[rge] G. Mackenzie to [Robert Underwood] Johnson, 1891 Dec 1.

George G. Mackenzie

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Raymond, Cal.

Dec. 1, '90.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Congratulations on Mr. Noble's report
about Yosemite! The Chronicle has a synopsis
only, but enough to show the drift. I am
delighted with Mr. Noble. Notwithstanding his
views as related by yourself, I have always been
afraid that the railroad influence would be
strong enough to induce the Secretary to pass
by the Yosemite ^{summit} as quietly as possible.

I hope that the Times will say something
good about Mr. Noble in connection with this
matter. That paper has taken a punch at
him pretty often, and it oughtn't to miss the
chance of saying a word in his praise.

As soon as I can get the report in full,
I will write something about it for some
paper.

Yours Very Truly
Geo. G. Mackenzie

I mail a Tulare Register with an article of
mine in answer to one in the Visalia Times. The latter

paper has "taken up with" some of the notions exhibited by Major Powell, U. S. Geological Director, Grand Chief Stumbug, and Exploiter of U. S. Funds. I am thinking of writing a series of articles for publication in the Register. It can't afford to pay for them, but it will give me a chance to make some things plain to common folk. I look on this whole forest business as your fight and mine in a lesser degree, for if it had not been for the row raised over Yosemite in the Century and the Times the public mind would not now, if ever, have been arrested and fastened to the forest question. And I doubt whether attention could have been caught in the first place if it had not been for that lucky telegram of Waterman's which gave us such a bully chance to wade into those fellows in fine shape entirely. To make the public listen one must talk about persons rather than policies - the public being such a dreadful ass.

Should you at any time have a chance, say to Mr. Stoble that I propose to fasten his name to some big mountain if I should ever be writing in a way that will give me an opening. Mr. Stoble wouldn't be amiss ^{anyway,}